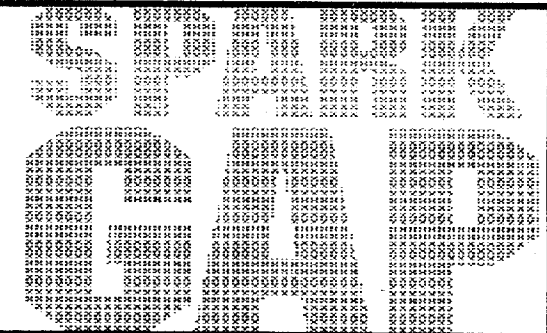


# MARC



**Ham Radio News From Central Indiana**

**Volume 7 No. 10**

**October 1993**

## VE TESTING UPGRADES

Louis Beam	Indianapolis	NC Tech
John Charlton	N9QKO Columbus	Advanced
Brian Davis	Indianapolis	NC Tech
N. Reachmack	KD9RUS Columbus	Tech
Mary Shelly	Freetown	NC Tech
John Smith	Columbus	NC Tech

transmission of one kind or another, but WWV time could provide synchronization of events at remote points that would be much more difficult if not impossible by usual means."

## WAITING FOR A LICENSE?

The FCC has handled seven weeks of applications in a two week period. However there is still a 3 week delay before Gettysburg can get to an application.

To this 3 weeks you have to add another month to cover the time it takes the FCC to receive the application from the VE and VEC's - and time for the license to be issued after it is entered into the Gettysburg terminals. (Before a ham ticket can be issued, the data must be filtered through the FCC's Washington, DC database.) The bottom line is that the time between examination and license receipt now stands at about 8 weeks instead of 12.

## FCC PREEMPTS LAWS

The FCC has found it necessary to preempt state and local laws that preclude the possession in vehicles and elsewhere on amateur service transceivers by amateur operators merely on the basis that the transceivers are capable of reception on radio service frequencies, the reception of which is not prohibited by federal law.

"We find that, under current conditions and given the types of equipment available in the market today, such laws prevent amateur operators from using their mobile stations to the full extent permitted under the Commissions's Rules and thus are in clear conflict with federal objectives of facilitating and promoting the Amateur Radio Service."

The commissions' rules do not prohibit amateur radios from having out of band reception.

## VE TEAMS TAKE NOTE!

Many medical doctors who sign code exemption statements on their patients' FCC Form 610's are being written to by the FCC in Gettysburg concerning the alleged disability and potential exam accommodations.

The code exemption request is routinely denied if the doctor fails to respond within 30 days to three questions from the FCC. Many do not! Although the FCC notifies the applicant, the Form 610 application is not returned or acted upon by the FCC.

## NO BUSINESS RULE

The newly revised "no business" rules went into effect on September 13th. Certain retransmissions of government provided space shuttle, propagation and weather forecast broadcasts are permitted on an occasional basis but not time signals.

Some hams think that time signals should be allowed and in that regard requests have been made to the FCC for a change. R. D. Cummings WA0EDA of Pittsburg, KS has made such a request. In his letter he states, "The ability of a VHF/UHF repeater providing a rebroadcast of WWV on demand would be valuable. Many repeaters now have a time

# DIRTY WORDS ON THE AIR



A high ranking FCC official says that the courts are keeping hams who use dirty words on the air. Ralph Haller, N4RH, who heads up the FCC's Private Radio Bureau is just as concerned as you are about the proliferation of vulgarity on the ham bands, but he says that it is the legal system that has tied the Commissions hands.

Imagine that you're a police officer. You spot someone committing a crime and decide to make an arrest. But a prosecutor says a conviction is unlikely because of how the law can be interpreted by the courts. As a result, there's little you can do. That is essentially the position FCC finds itself in when it comes to cleaning up the ham bands.

Ralph Haller says Commission efforts to fight indecency have not been very successful. "I've tried several times to take something that we thought would be a good transcript of something that was on the air. We simply do not have a good track record of being able to build a case that was air tight enough that we could get a conviction." Ralph Haller, N4RH, FCC Private Radio Bureau Chief.

It's not that the FCC lacks good examples of indecency. Haller describes some of the cases the Commission has tried to prosecute as particularly egregious. But

courts--ever mindful of the Constitution--are hesitant to limit free speech. "We certainly can't go beyond what the courts have said."

Congress wants the FCC to more tightly control indecency on the broadcast airwaves. Haller says that could open the way for new indecency rules affecting the amateur service. At least until then, trashmouths on the ham bands seemingly stand just beyond the Commission's reach. The FCC may have its hands tied by the courts, but Haller says that the agency is trying to do what it can.

## STATIONS FINED



While the FCC may not be doing much to take potty-mouth hams off the air, they are enforcing the prohibitions against broadcast indecency. Five

stations that carry shock-jock Howard Stern have been issued heavy fines.

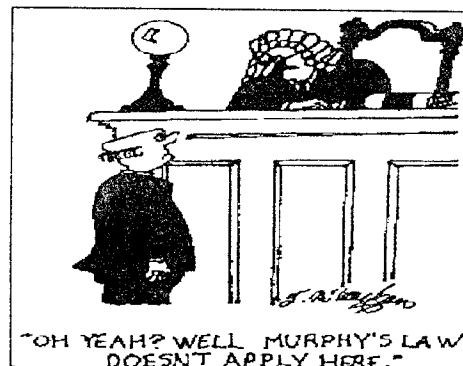
Four Infinity Broadcasting Corporation owned radio stations have again been fined \$500,000 for broadcasting indecent comments by personality Howard Stern. The FCC said the latest infractions occurred between November 10th of 1992 and January 13 1993. Since then, the commission said, Infinity has taken steps to keep indecency off the air during times when such language is prohibited.

The fines of \$125,000 apiece

were against WXRK-FM in New York, WYSP-FM in Philadelphia, WJFK-FM in Manassas, Va., and WJFK-AM in Baltimore. The FCC also fined independent broadcaster KFBI-FM of Pahrump, Nevada, \$73,750 for carrying the same Stern broadcasts.

Stern's show is syndicated by Infinity, which already had been fined \$600,000 for previous broadcasts. All of the stations issued fines were also given 30 days to respond to the latest charges.

Most observers believe that it will eventually be the United States Supreme Court that will be forced to decide what Stern and others can and cannot say over the airwaves.



## EXCUSES

The following are excuses you can use to avoid helping with a club project:

I WOULD LIKE TO HELP BUT....

Thst's the day I shave my toes.

My furnace won't stop running and my goldfish are getting poached.

Have company and I have to bar-beque the chicken lips..

Get the idea?

## BARBED-WIRE



### FENCE ANTENNA

By K4HTV

When I heard someone on 2 meters pondering whether he could use a barbed-wire fence as an antenna, it reminded me of my experience a few years back.

My longwire antenna was attached to the gable of the house. What a lightning strike in July of 1956 did to our home and to Dad's old tomcat is another story but, to put it simply, Dad threatened loss of life, limb, and all radio gear "If you ever put another antenna on the house!". Actually, he agreed I could have a lead-in but only if I removed it from the house each night.

The only tree that might support an antenna was 60 feet away from my room, but the lower corner of our 12 acre pasture fence was nearby. My 450-Ohm feedline was long enough to reach it, so I connected one lead to the top strand of barbed wire and the other to the bottom strand. (We poor folk could only afford two-stranded fences, but Mom explained the problem to our two milk cows and they were sympathetic; they never tried to escape.)

Well, it wouldn't load, so I took a couple of big variable capacitors (condensers then), mounted them under a dishpan, and, with the help of a Viking Matchbox, loaded that fence. It worked best on 40 meter CW, but I worked 75, 20, 15, and 10 meters too.

Toward summer's end, one of the cows went dry. Dad blamed it on my transmitting on the fence. He figured the cow must have touched the fence while I was on the air and gotten udderly zapped. He sold the cow and made me take down my dishpan tuning unit.

That ended my barbed-wire fence antenna experiment, but I didn't care. It was time to go off to college anyway. So if you have a handy barbed wire fence nearby, try it as an antenna. Just be careful not to zap any cows!

Source: Jan 93 Watauga ARC (Boon, NC), Sept 93 ARNS, and Sept 93 Muncie Exciter.

## NEWS FROM MORGAN COUNTY



On August 2 the Martinsville Daily Reporter ran a front page story by Bette Nunn which mentions the severe weather spotter network activities in that area. It also encouraged the general public to place the 147.060 repeater frequency in their scanners and suggested that they monitor it during severe weather to know what is happening locally as it happens!

The article also mentioned the WET Net system that accumulates precipitation reports as a public service by amateur radio operators. This is a step in the right direction toward enlightening the public regarding the importance of amateur radio!

It would probably be a good idea for all clubs in the state to do the same for their local repeaters!



## ARE YOU DOING YOUR SHARE?

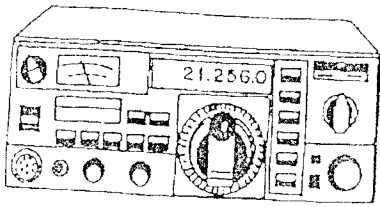
The U.S. has about 600,000 amateurs. About 168,000 are members of the ARRL. This is about 28 percent of all amateurs. The latest ARRL figures show that there are 13,248 amateurs in Indiana and 3155 are members of the ARRL. This represents about 23 percent of Indiana hams in the National Organization. We in Indiana should try to be as strong as the national average.

The ARRL may not be perfect, and you may have had an incident with them that turned you against them, but the fact remains that the ARRL is the only strong organization that is working for the benefit of the amateur community! Their relationship with the FCC has resulted in many of the changes we enjoy today. If we want to continue to protect our privileges and frequency allocations we need to support the only national organization that has the clout to make a difference!

If you are not an ARRL member and want to be, ask fellow hams how to become involved. The club has letters and applications for joining. And if you join through the club a portion of your dues can be retained for club use!

## REMINDER !

Just a reminder! Don't forget to order your amateur plates for next year. For your 1994 plates your order must be in before the end of the year.



## NEW TECH

Cellular telephones have been taking a beating in the British press lately, being blamed from bad calls to curtain calls. Tennis officials at Wimbledon shut off the electronic court sensors that normally detect out-of-bounds shots, due to RFI.

In London, the opening of Andrew Lloyd Webber's new musical, "Sunset Boulevard," was delayed for 13 days until technicians could find out why the hydraulic pumps on the scenery were turning on by themselves.. Cellular telephones were to blame again.

Keeping RFI from leaving the inside of your radio is just as important to your community as it is keeping it from reaching your receiver from the outside.

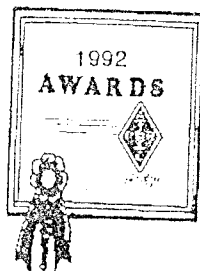
A new type of interference filter in the form of a plastic-like sheet is now being used by many engineering firms to fight RFI.

Companies that manufacture this material claim up to 100 dB of shielding, at frequencies as high as 18 GHz! Soft and pliable, the shielding filter can be cut with scissors, positioned very exactly, and used just about anywhere. Perfect for hand-held equipment!

Ask a group of helicopter pilots what their greatest fears are and one of the answers will probably be

"power lines." Unlike broadcast towers and masts, power lines are not as strictly regulated in terms of illumination. McDonnell Douglas hopes to rectify that with their new power line sensor, which warns pilots when they fly too close. If the lines appear to be in the path of the copter the sensor alerts the pilot. Lines 3.5 miles away can be sensed.

SOURCE: W5M REPORT



## AREA HAM EARNS AWARD

Ad Scholes, NR9K has been named as the recipient for the 1992 Field Organization Volunteer of the Year Award for the Central Division. This award is presented by the ARRL Board of Directors upon the nomination from Section Managers.

Peggy Coulter, W9JUU, Indiana Section Manager, said she was happy her candidate is the recipient of the award. Ad is well deserving of this award for his many hours as a volunteer to help further Amateur Radio and those interested in the hobby.

Ad is an ARRL volunteer examiner, has held positions as an officer in the Muncie Area Amateur Radio Club, loves to help on field day and teach novice classes for the club. Congratulations Ad!

SOURCE: MUNCIE EXCITER

## A NEW CHALLENGE!



One area of Amateur Radio that we have not really considered for the club is in radio direction finding. "Fox Hunting" is the phrase most hams use. Not only is this activity fun and self-rewarding but it can also be an important asset to the club!

The equipment needed is not very expensive, mainly antennas which can be "home brew." A few years back we had a program about "Fox Hunting" at one of our club meetings. It failed to produce any interested members. But now, with our increased membership we may have a few out there who would like to get involved in this worthwhile activity.

There is an interesting article in the October issue of QST (page 64) that gives an in-depth description of the "sport". Also we have several "experts" in the area who would be glad to help new "hunters" get started!

Wouldn't it be great for the club to have its own DF-ing team? If you are interested bring it up at the next meeting---maybe we can get an "expert" on this subject for one of our club meetings!

## THANKS!

Bob, N9IMP wishes to thank all the members of the club and the executive committee for their help and cooperation while he was president!



Little Johnny asked his grandpa to make a noise like a frog. Grandpa said, "I don't know how". The next day Johnny again asked Grandpa to make a noise like a frog. Again Grandpa said, "I don't know how".

The next day Johnny began to plead and beg his Grandpa to make a noise like a frog. His Grandpa said, "why is it so important to you for me to make a noise like a frog?"

Little Johnny said, "Cause Mommy sez soon as you croak we are all going to Disney World!"

\*\*\*The first thing a child learns when he gets a drum is that he'll never get another one!

\*\*\*Income taxes could be a lot higher. Just think if everyone paid what they thought they were worth!

\*\*\*Don't ignore the panhandler who asks you for a dime for a cup of coffee. Give it to him. Then follow him and find out where they sell coffee for a dime.

\*\*\*Guide: This castle has stood here for 600 years. Not a stone has been touched; nothing altered, nothing replaced!

Visitor: They've got the same land lord I've got!

\*\*\* There was a man who died and went to Heaven. When he got there, he noticed clocks all over the place, just ticking away. So he asked St. Peter, "What are all those clocks for?" St. Peter said, "Oh, each clock represents a person on earth; every time the person lies, the clock moves ahead an hour." So the man said, "Well, where's my clock?" St. Peter said, "That one's in the kitchen; we're using it as a fan!"

\*\*\* One day the computer broke down and St. Peter couldn't assign new arrivals. Instead he decided to send new arrivals back to earth in a different form until the computer was repaired.

St. Peter asked the first in what form he would like to go back to earth. The arrival replied that he always wanted to be free and fly like a bird. So, St. Peter sent him back as an eagle. The second arrival said that he always liked the ocean. St. Peter sent him back as a whale. The third arrival told St. Peter that he always wanted to be a "stud".

Soon the system was fixed, and the Lord told St. Peter to bring them all back. St. Peter

replied that it would take some time to locate them since the first arrival was sent back as an eagle and was soaring somewhere in the rockies, and the second was a whale swimming somewhere in the ocean.

The Lord then asked about the third arrival. St. Peter said that he would be the hardest of all to find since he was on a Goodyear tire somewhere in Cincinnati.

\*\*\* If stock market experts were so expert, they would be buying stock, not selling advice!

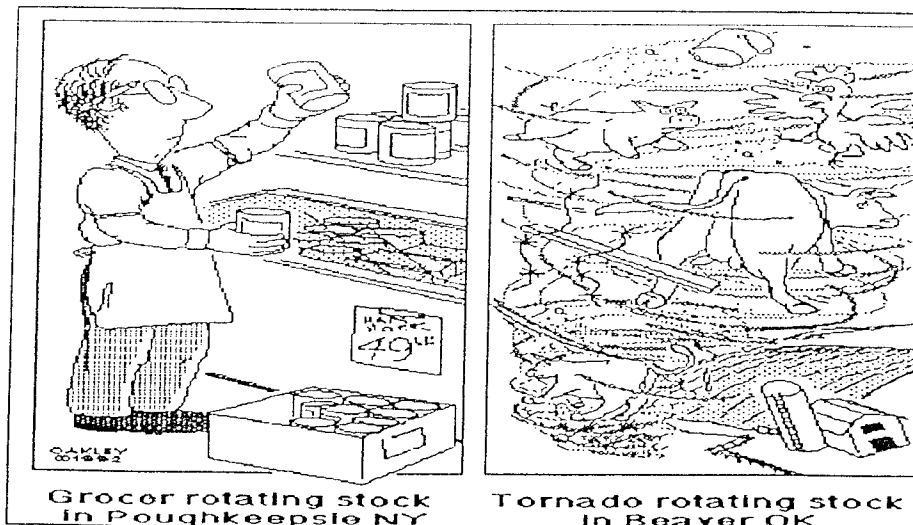
\*\*\* My glasses are so thick, when I look at a map I see people waving!

\*\*\* Technology is dominated by two types of people: Those who understand what they do not manage and those who manage what they do not understand.

\*\*\* A government that is big enough to give you all you want is big enough to take it all away!

\*\*\* A pessimist is a person who thinks everybody is as nasty as himself, and hates them for it!

\*\*\* Never go to a doctor whose Office plants have died!



Grocer rotating stock  
In Poughkeepsie NY

Tornado rotating stock  
In Beaver OK



## GOBBLIN PATROL



Late in October the members of the Mid-State Club will provide a patrol of mobiles in cooperation with the Johnson County Sheriff's Department.

Mid-State has provided extra eyes and ears against vandalism at halloween for the past several years.

We are expecting a good turn-out for this year's patrol. Details at the next meeting.



## CUPS CUPS CUPS



Just in time for the October meeting are the brand new Mid-state ARC coffee mugs. The 10 ounce ceramic mugs will feature the Midstate Logo on two sides. Each cup will be sold for the unheard of low price of \$5.50. All proceeds from the sale will go toward the repeater Tower Fund and will help support future club activities.

So, be the first ham on your block to get a couple of cups and impress the neighbors with something besides TVI. They will make great Christmas gifts and will im-

prove the looks of even the most cluttered ham shack. Everyone will receive a free coffee fill up with the purchase of every cup. This is a limited edition cup so get yours soon!

If you can't attend the October 16th meeting Jack Parker will take

phone orders by calling 881-0817. To quote Jack, "I don't care about making money, I just love to sell cups."

## LIVE STEAMERS PICNIC



Who said railroads were dead? They certainly are not vanishing from the Hoosier landscape. Deep in the wooded hills and hollars of northern Morgan county you'll find Mt. Nebo Station. That's the home of a 3/4 mile long miniature railroad hand-built by the Indiana Live Steam Association. What better place for kids from 5 to 65 to have a great time riding the 1/8 scale trains?

On Saturday September 18th nearly fifty ham radio operators and their families did just that! They rode the rails aboard the miniature trains and enjoyed the hospitality of the Indiana Live Steamers. This is a dedicated group of model railroaders who have built their own steam engines, passenger cars, tressels and signal system.

A pitch-in lunch provided a virtual horn-of-plenty for everyone. And of course, it wouldn't be an official ham event without the delicious sliced ham provided by the Midstate ARC. Everyone ate the food and rode the rails until they ran-out-of-steam. Our thanks to Ron Gaertner, WB9NVM, and Bob Cammack, N9IMP, for arranging a really fun day.

After a short business meeting Ron fired up this hand-built diesel locomotive and pulled a large group of smiling passengers around the nearly mile long lay out. Bruce the engineer, added to the realism of the day when he fired up his hand-built coal-fired steam locomotive and chugged his way through the woods, across the ravines and back to Mt. Nebo Station.

The Live Steamers run their trains the third Saturday of each month from spring until fall. All Midstate hams are welcome to stop by this Saturday October 16th following the meeting in Franklin. Directions will be available at the Midstate ARC meeting.

MEETING AND VE TESTING

OCTOBER 16TH 8:00 AM

# LIFE BELOW TEN METERS

## A FORUM ON HF



What's the  
Maritime Mobile  
Net? Where do I  
find Midcars?  
What do I need  
to talk to Africa,

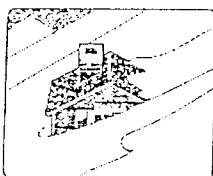
Spain or South America? These are just a few of the questions that will be addressed during an HF forum at the October club meeting.

Heading up our panel of experienced radio operators is Bob Doles, WB9AYB; Pat Pyle, W9PSD; Lendal Cook, W9LNX; and Keith Cohoon, K9PDI. Jack Parker, NT9J will serve as moderator. This is expected to be a lively discussion covering DX, the HF frequencies, low band equipment, and in general just what to listen for as a curious short wave listener.

Bring your ideas, questions and suggestions to the meeting. Who knows? We might even convince a couple of techs to go for the general!

..NT9J

## TEAM WORK



This coming weekend will mark the end of a month long search and rescue training session for several Columbus, Indiana hams. Jim Anderson, N9KVV, and two of his colleagues have spent over 40 hours learning wilderness survival skills, compass and map reading

and basic search and rescue fundamentals.

The month long course is taught by the National Association for Search and Rescue.

Their mission is to develop professional S&R teams throughout the country that can be quickly deployed as a First Response Team in time of disaster.

As Bartholomew County RACES officer, Jim says, "We were taught to think like our victims. For example, an experienced hiker or hunter who is lost or injured will think and react differently than a lost child."

Part of the training was taken in Louisville, Kentucky and in Bloomington. There are eleven members of the training team. The other men are local firefighters and police officers. Jim says having an amateur radio license and portable radios gives the team additional communications equipment for out in the field.

The next class is scheduled to begin December 4th in Indianapolis. It is open to anyone with the time and interest in serving on a search and rescue team. Interested parties can call the Zulu Search and Rescue answering machine at AC 317-875-9913.

## SIMULATED EXERCISE

Saturday October 23rd emergency management agencies across the country will conduct simulated emergency training



exercises. EFFORT 93, is designed to test the efficiency of the Indiana State Emergency Management Agency and it's Forward Response Teams.

During the exercise the SEMA people will have to deal with an outbreak of tornadoes and earthquakes that occur in several counties at the same time.

Johnson County is not targeted as one of the simulated disaster counties, but Sam Williams, county emergency management director, says the county RACES members will be able to participate in the exercise by manning the EOC communications center.

The exercise is expected to begin early Saturday morning and last until late in the afternoon.

## KLAN ON ATV

Several Indianapolis amateur radio operators will be assisting local and state law enforcement agencies during a Ku Klux Klan rally scheduled for October 16th. The nationally organized rally is being held on the east steps of the State House.

Fearing a clash between Klan members and anti-Klan factions, local authorities are planning on having extra police officers in the area and a helicopter overhead. That's where the hams come in. The Indianapolis Police Department has asked a group of hams to put amateur TV equipment in the helicopter and on two buildings overlooking the rally site. (over)

10/93

(Klan continued)

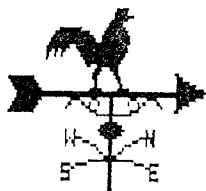
The live pictures from the two buildings and the helicopter will be transmitted on ATV frequencies to the police command post set up near the State House.

This is not the first time local hams have assisted the police department with amateur TV. During the Pan American games in 1987 three helicopters were rigged with ATV equipment. They flew non-stop during the two week event.

Due to the controversial nature of the rally police officials have asked that the identities of the ham radio operators assisting them not be released. Anyone with a 420-440 Mhz down converter may be able to monitor the pictures coming from the aerial surveillance camera during the Saturday morning rally.

-NT9J

## NEW RADAR AT INDY



Under beautiful blue skies the National Weather Service cut the ribbon and dedicated it's new Indianapolis Weather Service Office. The one story structure is located on a wooded lot just south of the Indianapolis International Airport in the 6900 block of west Hanna Avenue. According to John Curran, WB0HTP, his staff of meteorologists scheduled the spring-like weather just for the official opening ceremonies.

In addition to the new building, the facilities will house

the new WSR-88D Doppler radar. The antenna is in the huge white dome that sticks out above the trees south of interstate 70 near I-465.

According to Curran this is the most advanced weather radar in the world. It can only be appreciated by a personal visit to the westside facility.

The National Weather Service held an open house for weather spotters October 7th. In addition to the dopler radar the facilities include new computers, a weather radio studio, tornado shelter and work stations for the severe weather amateur radio nets.

A special tour of the facility is being planned for the Mid-State ARC. Details concerning the visit will be announced in the near future.



## 36th SCOUT



### JAMBOREE ON THE AIR

Jamboree on the air is an annual Scouting/amateur radio event sponsored by the World Organization of the Scout Movement. It is always held during the third weekend of October.

Thousand of stations around the globe participate. If propagation is right, it is common to contact 100 Scouting countries during the weekend. In 1992, Scouts in some areas of the world contacted emerging Scout groups in Poland, Romania, Slovenia, and the Ukraine.

Here in the U.S.A. many Scout districts and councils hold camporees to coincide with the

Jamboree where amateurs set up field-day-type operations, giving campers a chance to exchange greetings with Scouts everywhere.

Generally, the exchanges include typical information; name, location (QTH), Scout rank, hobbies, etc. Some exchanges lead to long-lasting pen pal friendships and the exchange of photos, badges, pins, and patches.

Specialized communications such as SSTV and ATV can give some the opportunity to see the other person. This year, many will have an opportunity to talk to others via OSCAR. With the successful launching of six additional satellites in January 1990, at least one of the satellites should be in sight at all times.

Other contacts will be made by Packet Radio, RTTY, and Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) contacts.

Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Explorers, Scouters, former Scouts and Scouters, amateur radio operators; in fact, anyone interested in doing a good turn for Scouting and amateur radio can be involved in the Jamboree-on-the-Air!

The event is scheduled from midnight October 16th to midnight on the 17th (local time).

Calling frequencies for CW are: 3.590; 7.030; 14.070; 21.910; and 28.190.. The phone frequencies are: 3.740; 7.090; 14.290; 21.360; and 28.990.

Several of our club members are active in the scouting program and will surely be participating in this year's Jamboree. Happy bonding, gentlemen!



# CURRAN ELECTRONICS

## SALES AND SERVICE

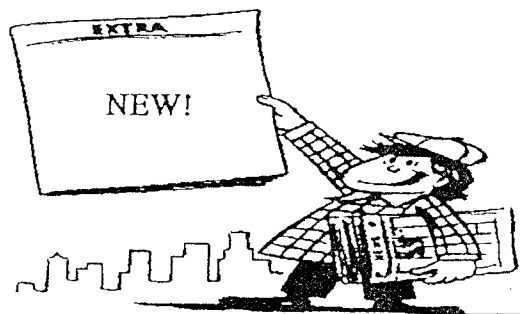
We repair most brands of amateur, business band, CB's, and scanners.

Tom Curran, N9DZJ

1217 N. Wittfield St. Indianapolis 46229

Phone 898-2338

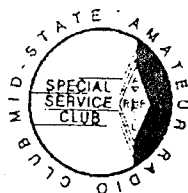
Fax 898-2338



Bob Cammack, N9IMP, our retiring president, is to be commended for leading us through a very eventful year. During his tenure the club membership has nearly doubled! Our club programs have all been interesting and well attended, and the tower in Whiteland has been turned over to the City of Whiteland.

Bob's dedication to the club was well established by the many hours of time he spent on all the details that make a club successful! Congratulations Bob, we really appreciate your efforts!

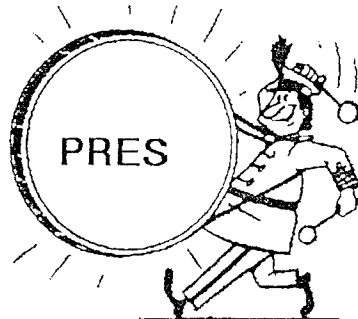
One of Bob's last official acts was to get the club accredited as an ARRL Special Service Club! The requirements for this affiliation include amateur activities such as novice classes, newsletter, providing service for special events, testing opportunities, etc. In return the club is recognized in QST and FIELD FORUM, and receives the ARRL



Letter, free bi-monthly lists of new amateurs in our area, SSC clip art, and we get our club listed in the current Repeater Directory.

There is no fee for Special Service Club affiliation and the only requirement is the filing of an annual report to keep the club activated. The helpful materials provided by ARRL alone is worth the effort to remain a part of the national organization.

## NEWS FROM THE



Hi, my name is Roy Barnes N9PFZ. I'm your new president of the Mid-State ARC for the 93/94 year.

I started with the club a few years ago and was elected president last September. I am very interested in the success of the club and all its members. I am 40 years old, have 4 kids, and my wife Paula was pleased that you elected me to assume the duties of president and help make the decisions that are in the best interests of the club.

I feel we have a fine group of amateurs that make the MARC what it is today. We now have over 90 members and we can provide several services to meet the needs of members and the community! As the club continues to grow we know that many non-members are listening on the repeater to see what our club has to offer. I hope that what they hear is what we want them to hear!

Each of YOU add to the success of a sound, well organized, well run, and lasting club. We are a family with a common goal, providing the materials and training to succeed! Your ideas, methods, and expertise are the tools that can build the ideal organization that we all envision.

As we begin another year let's all keep in mind that this is YOUR club and YOU are in control of its future!

73 Roy N9PFZ

10/93

YAESU KENWOOD ICOM  
ALINCO STANDARD

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**Electronics**

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Central Indiana Hams!

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## BENS WEATHER TIPS

By Ben Woods Channel 8 TV

This decade is viewed by some in the weather business as the golden age of meteorology. Some long awaited technological advances in the observation of weather phenomena are coming on line. The most publicized of these advances is the WSR-88D Weather Radar or NEXRAD Doppler Radar. It is at the core of the new National Weather Service offices being constructed across the country.

Other meteorological break-throughs include Next-generation satellite pictures. These are expected in the next year or two. The Profiler System will continually measure atmospheric profiles of temperature, humidity, wind, and pressure.

With any reorganization there are some "growing pains!" Although many new offices are being built many more are being closed down! In Indiana for example a modern new facility has been completed in Indianapolis. But existing offices in South Bend, Fort Wayne and Evansville will be closed by January 1996. In Indiana the four existing weather offices will be reduced to one! As a result the warning responsibility area for Indianapolis will be increased significantly!

We made the transition from summer warmth to autumn chill rather quickly in the month of September

in Indiana. In fact, it was the coolest September in Indianapolis in the past 20 years. We averaged 62.2 degrees (4.4 degrees cooler than normal). It will rank as the 7th coolest September on record.

Despite the chilly average temperature not a single record low was set during the month. We also had more than our share of rain. A total of 5.69 inches fell making it the 3rd wettest September in the past 38 years. That was well above the normal 2.87 inches. The rain and clouds cut back on the typical amount of sunshine we should have received.. We had only 46 percent of the possible sunshine compared to the normal of 66 percent. Let's hope October and the coming winter are less gloomy.

This is the time of year we expect a pleasant Indian summer. Indian summer is defined as the warm (usually 80's) and sunny weather occurring in the fall after the first frost. The monthly outlook for October from the National Weather Service is calling for Indiana to have slightly cooler than normal temperature and heavier than normal rainfall. However the fall color show should be spectacular this year!

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